

OUR VALUES

Investing in a more resilient and equitable Portland

Downtown Portland, the core of the State's economy, is in crisis. Urgent actions are needed to return it to its previous status as one of the safest and most attractive downtowns to live, work, and play in the nation. Downtown will not recover if employees do not feel safe going to work, and if retailers are not able to operate successful businesses. We urge elected leaders to invest in basic services, housing development, and livability to build a more resilient economy for Portlanders. We support transitioning Portland's antiquated form of government to a modern structure that meets the needs of a growing, more diverse, population.

Everyone deserves a place to call home

A record number of Portlanders are homeless and in need of outreach, mental health, addiction, transitional shelter, and housing services. We call on elected officials at all levels to urgently implement the new homeless services program and invest in short- and long-term solutions to bring an end to the humanitarian crises. Leaders must adopt policies and practices that encourage housing development. The city must enforce the adopted urban camping policies to maintain and build community trust.

Make Portland safe for everyone

In 2021, Portland witnessed record gun violence and homicides, particularly in historically underserved communities. A rise in car thefts and break-ins are negatively impacting retail businesses across Portland. We urge the city and county to invest in building Portland's police force and district attorney's staff to the national average for communities of our size, along with investments in 311 and Portland Street Response. We reject the false trade-off between having a larger police force and a better, more equitable police culture. Portlanders want and should have both.

Working towards a better climate future

We recognize the critical challenges posed by the growing impacts of climate change. We support policies that promote collaboration with the private sector to innovate and invest in clean technologies that will accelerate reductions in carbon emissions and reduce dependence on fossil fuels.

Keep Portland moving

To stay competitive and build shared prosperity, our region must not let our transportation infrastructure fall further behind the rest of the country. We support data-driven policies at all levels of government that relieve congestion, reduce emissions, allow the efficient delivery of goods, and support historically underserved neighborhoods and communities.

Policy

PRIORITIES

- 1** Restore a clean, safe and vibrant Central City for employees, residents and visitors
- 2** Invest in public safety services and accelerate culture change
- 3** Adopt policies that retain businesses and allow them to thrive
- 4** Advocate to shelter houseless Portlanders and fund wrap-around services
- 5** Support changing Portland's form of government



1 RESTORE A CLEAN, SAFE AND VIBRANT CENTRAL CITY FOR EMPLOYEES, RESIDENTS AND VISITORS

- Urgent action is needed to enforce rules and laws that maintain clean sidewalks and increase safety for employees and visitors.
- Maintain consistent garbage collection service.
- Support police-led initiatives including Entertainment District street closures.
- Increase the number and availability of safe needle disposal stations in the Central City.
- Multnomah County should collaborate with neighboring downtown businesses to plan the downtown Behavioral Health Resource Center.
- Develop a plan to meet the public-space goal in the City of Portland's Central City Plan.

2 INVEST IN PUBLIC SAFETY SERVICES AND ACCELERATE CULTURE CHANGE

- Make significant investments in public safety services appropriate for the size and needs of 21st century Portland.
- Accelerate culture change to eliminate racial bias in our social justice system.
- Increase funding for Portland Police Bureau staffing, including increased walking-beat assignments in Downtown Portland.
- Restore past cuts and increase funding to community corrections, jails, and the Multnomah County District Attorney Office.
- Support investments in technology for the most efficient use and deployment of Portland police officers and resources to restore public safety.

3 ADOPT POLICIES THAT RETAIN BUSINESSES AND ALLOW THEM TO THRIVE

- Fulfill and meet the city's historic financial commitment to support and retain businesses and encourage commerce.
- Advocate for the highest and best use of retail tenancy in key areas throughout Downtown Portland.
- Support key partners in their commitment to the vibrancy of Downtown Portland and encourage visitors and support employees and residents.
- Encourage local governments to support all modes of transportation while taking steps to reduce congestion during commute times. Allow for the efficient movement of goods.

4 ADVOCATE TO SHELTER HOUSELESS PORTLANDERS AND FUND WRAP-AROUND SERVICES

- Continue to adopt policies and allocate funds necessary to rapidly shelter the houseless and end unsanctioned camping.
- Make investments to fund mental health, housing placement, outreach and addiction services.

5 SUPPORT CHANGING PORTLAND'S FORM OF GOVERNMENT

- Transition Portland's antiquated form of government to a modern structure that meets the needs of a growing, more diverse population.

These policy priorities and values are developed in active collaboration with members and community partners of Portland Business Alliance. Find out more: PortlandAlliance.com/advocacy.

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